months of the 2004-05 was Rs. 2020 crore along with 20 lakh tonnes of foodgrains. The part of initial instalment of Rs. 297.91 crore at the Rs. 2 crore per district with entire allocated foodgrains of 20 lakh tonnes was immediately released to all the identified 150 districts in November 2004 itself. The balance of initial instalment amounting to Rs. 1653.75 crore was released in January 2005 the moment the same was made available through first supplementary Demand for Grants and Rs. 67.79 crore in March 2005. As such, the States have been given adequate resources immediately on the launching the programme and there is no reason the States should delay payment of wages under the NFFWP.

(b) to (d) Every State has their own system of schedule of rates for payment of wages under the programme. Notified minimum wages are to be paid. Wages are paid through a mix of cash and foodgrains. 5 kg. of Foodgrains has to be paid per manday and atleast 25% of the wages in cash. In case any of the two components is not adequately available, it may be compensated with other component. This has been done to take care of late or inadequate supply of foodgrains by the FCI. This also ensures unhindered implementation of NFFWP.

Disposal of pending cases

†419. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases related to labour dispute district-wise which are pending and under consideration in Labour and High Court in Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of pending cases has increased constantly during last one decade;

(c) whether the number of vacant posts of presiding judges as compared to the pending cases are more in the State; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps taken for filling up vacant posts and disposal of pending cases at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.